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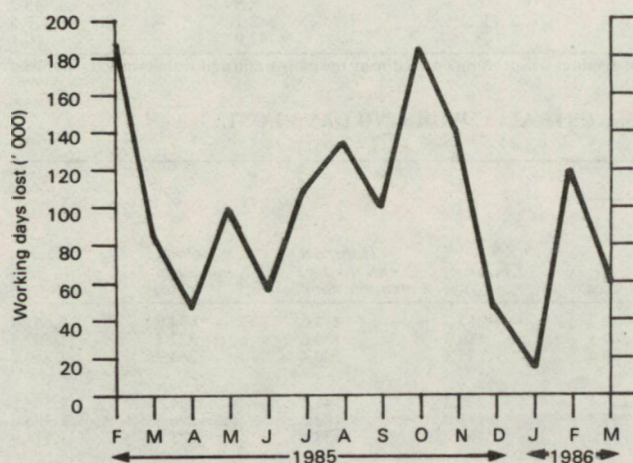
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### INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, AUSTRALIA, MARCH 1986

- PHONE INQUIRIES**
- *about these statistics*—contact Michael Koukoulas on Canberra (062) 52 6561 or any ABS State office.
  - *about other statistics and ABS services*,—contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 6627, or any ABS State office.
- MAIL INQUIRIES**
- *write to Information Services*, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any ABS State office.
- ON VIATEL**
- key \*656# for selected economic, social and demographic statistics on VIATEL.

#### MAIN FEATURES



In March 1986, 60,100 working days were lost by 42,000 workers in 154 disputes. The 1,118,900 working days lost in the 12 months ended March 1986 was the lowest for a 12 month period since the 12 months ended April 1969 when 1,074,400 working days were lost.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTES

##### Coverage

The statistics relate only to disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more at the establishments where the stoppages occurred.

2. The figures of working days lost relate to the losses due to industrial disputes (as defined in paragraph 4) and not to aggregate losses for the economy as a whole. Details shown in this publication refer to all disputes in progress during the reference period indicated.

3. The statistics of industrial disputes are compiled mainly from data obtained from employers (both private and government) and trade unions concerning individual disputes and from reports of government authorities. Particulars of some stoppages (for example, those involving a large number of establishments) may have been estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving only a broad measure of the extent of industrial disputes (as defined).

##### Definitions

4. For these statistics an *industrial dispute* is defined as a withdrawal from work by a group of employees or a refusal by an employer or a number of employers to permit some or all of their employees to work, each withdrawal or refusal being made in order to enforce a demand, to resist a demand, or to express a grievance.

5. *Workers involved* include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are those thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but who are not themselves parties to the dispute.

6. Differences between monthly and annual totals of workers involved can occur due to temporary cessations of stoppages that resume in subsequent months. Workers re-involved in this type of dispute are included in the monthly totals.

7. *Working days lost* refer to man-days lost by workers directly and indirectly involved in the dispute and figures are generally as reported by parties to the dispute. For some disputes working days lost are estimated on the basis of the number of workers involved and the duration of the dispute.

8. *Working days lost per 1,000 employees* have been compiled from those lost by workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more in the establishments where the stoppages occurred. Working days lost in agriculture, etc. and in private households employing staff have been *excluded* from Tables 4 and 5 but *included* in Tables 1 to 3.

9. The estimates of employees are obtained from the Labour Force survey.

##### Other ABS publications

10. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

*Industrial Disputes, Australia* (6322.0)—issued annually, contains more detailed information including statistics on the cause, method of settlement and duration of industrial disputes.

*Labour Statistics, Australia, 1984* (6101.0) (\$4.50, \$6.50 incl. postage)

*The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)—issued monthly (\$1.20, \$2.10 incl. postage)

11. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

##### Symbols and other usages

r figure revised since last issue

12. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

IAN CASTLES  
Australian Statistician



TABLE 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

Period	Number of disputes		Workers involved ('000)		Working days lost ('000)
	Commenced in period	Total(a)	Newly involved(b)	Total(a)	
1983	1,779	1,787	r452.8	r470.2	1,641.4
1984	1,958	1,965	r551.1	r560.3	1,307.4
1985	r1,830	r1,845	r552.6	r570.5	1,256.2
<i>Twelve months ended—</i>					
March 1984	1,807	1,826	439.0	464.0	1,508.5
1985	1,926	1,947	579.2	586.6	1,385.6
1986	1,775	1,793	502.2	506.9	1,118.9
<i>1985—</i>					
April	105	123	24.6	29.3	46.4
May	134	153	64.8	70.3	98.4
June	134	156	28.5	34.7	57.3
July	205	229	54.2	60.3	109.8
August	176	210	72.2	96.4	136.3
September	171	192	38.3	60.7	103.3
October	205	r230	74.4	82.3	184.2
November	176	200	r52.1	56.3	142.4
December	103	117	29.2	32.4	45.0
<i>1986—</i>					
January	77	84	6.3	8.5	15.2
February	151	161	r32.2	r48.1	r120.5
March	138	154	25.4	42.0	60.1

(a) Refers to all disputes in progress during the period. (b) Comprises workers involved in disputes which commenced during the month and additional workers involved in disputes which continued from the previous month.

TABLE 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

Period	Manufacturing							
	Mining		Metal products, machinery and equipment	Other	Construction	Transport and storage; Communication	Other industries (a)	All industries
	Coal	Other						
1983	122.8	194.7	157.6	120.7	337.2	213.6	494.8	1,641.4
1984	131.1	193.2	144.8	249.3	116.3	150.6	322.1	1,307.4
1985	233.8	106.3	107.3	189.4	175.3	180.4	263.7	1,256.2
<i>Twelve months ended—</i>								
March 1984	113.4	198.7	121.5	153.4	275.3	141.4	504.8	1,508.5
1985	236.6	187.9	158.5	209.4	115.0	182.2	296.0	1,385.6
1986	201.8	96.8	92.4	185.0	164.0	153.9	225.0	1,118.9
<i>1985—</i>								
April	1.0	2.5	3.5	13.1	7.8	5.5	13.2	46.4
May	9.3	3.7	24.4	19.5	33.3	3.2	5.1	98.4
June	11.5	2.5	3.3	6.9	14.1	1.2	17.8	57.3
July	6.3	11.7	6.0	31.0	22.4	16.3	15.9	109.8
August	6.9	16.7	10.5	50.0	19.9	18.6	13.7	136.3
September	25.6	6.8	13.3	11.9	31.4	4.5	9.8	103.3
October	16.0	4.3	4.6	21.6	10.0	27.2	100.5	184.2
November	7.1	32.9	5.6	14.9	10.3	57.6	14.1	142.4
December	r18.6	3.1	3.5	3.0	3.3	4.9	8.7	45.0
<i>1986—</i>								
January	1.5	1.0	1.7	1.3	4.3	2.8	2.6	15.2
February	83.3	6.6	3.9	3.3	r4.9	3.8	14.8	r120.5
March	14.8	5.0	12.2	8.7	2.3	8.5	8.7	60.1

(a) ASIC divisions A, D, F, I to L.

TABLE 3. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : STATES, WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust. (a)
1983	801.2	257.7	135.0	87.7	270.6	67.8	1,641.4
1984	660.6	187.5	236.5	25.5	119.2	50.5	1,307.4
1985	398.7	355.9	336.2	22.5	92.9	20.6	1,256.2
<i>Twelve months ended—</i>							
March 1984	722.3	232.0	126.6	65.3	270.0	70.1	1,508.5
1985	631.6	199.4	365.4	23.2	92.7	47.0	1,385.6
1986	405.7	340.6	203.4	22.9	89.7	22.7	1,118.9
<i>1985—</i>							
April	17.6	11.2	5.0	1.1	9.4	1.2	46.4
May	29.8	26.7	25.9	1.3	10.0	3.6	98.4
June	26.5	22.5	0.7	1.1	3.5	0.5	57.3
July	34.5	37.4	11.6	2.4	13.2	5.4	109.8
August	41.9	21.4	46.6	4.2	13.3	4.6	136.3
September	35.8	7.7	48.2	2.4	6.3	0.6	103.3
October	43.5	119.8	7.7	3.0	7.7	1.3	184.2
November	30.3	64.3	29.3	0.9	11.8	0.8	142.4
December	22.9	6.9	3.7	1.7	3.2	1.4	45.0
<i>1986—</i>							
January	5.7	4.8	1.1	0.7	1.7	0.8	15.2
February	81.6	6.9	r20.3	1.8	5.6	1.8	r120.5
March	35.4	11.1	3.4	2.3	4.1	0.8	60.1

(a) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.



CHART 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES  
TWELVE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 1985 AND 1986

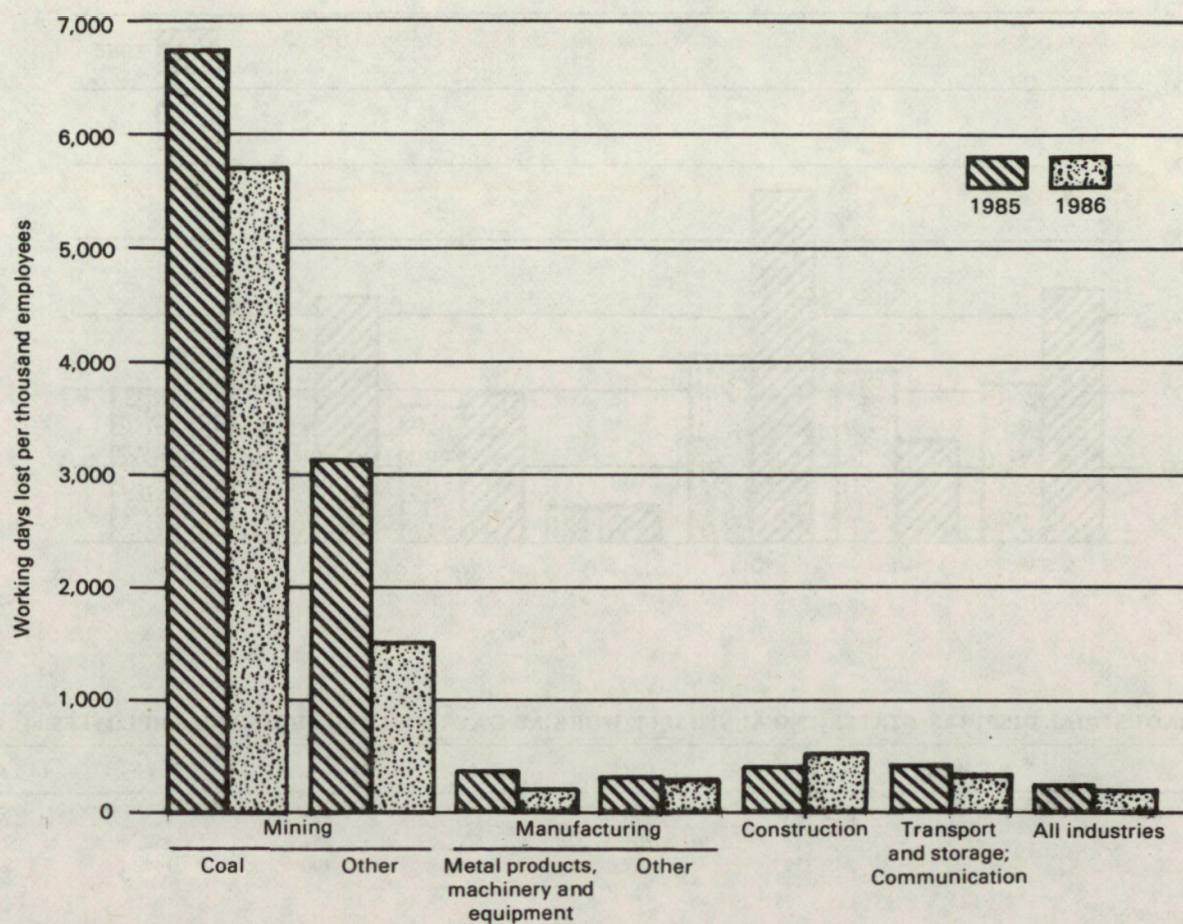


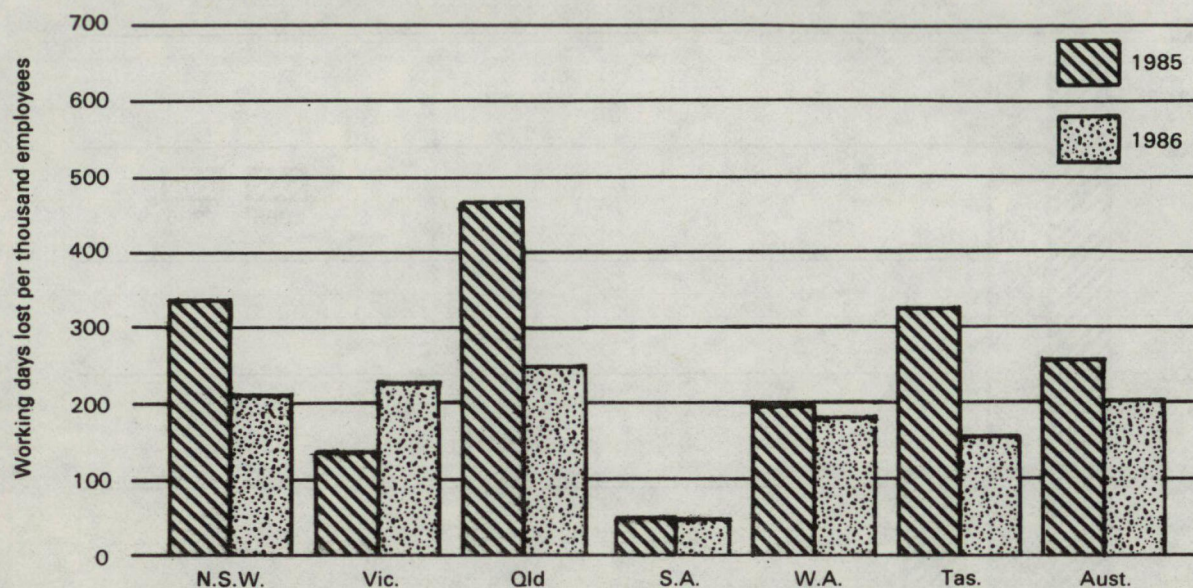
TABLE 4. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES (a)

Period	Mining		Manufacturing		Construction	Transport and storage; Communication	Other industries	All industries
	Coal	Other	Metal products, machinery and equipment	Other				
1983	3,223	3,375	353	186	1,269	485	42	249
1984	3,543	3,286	327	387	427	346	94	246
1985	6,739	1,723	242	296	580	404	75	230
Twelve months ended—								
March 1985	6,742	3,131	357	325	410	417	85	259
1986	5,700	1,520	209	289	538	343	63	203

(a) Excludes agriculture, etc. and private households employing staff.



**CHART 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: STATES AND AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES, TWELVE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 1985 AND 1986**



**TABLE 5. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: STATES AND AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES(a)**

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.(b)
1983	287	163	176	115	577	478	249
1984	355	131	301	56	251	352	246
1985	209	239	417	48	190	144	230
<i>Twelve months ended—</i>							
March 1985	337	138	464	51	194	324	259
1986	211	228	249	49	181	158	203

(a) Excludes agriculture, etc. and private households employing staff. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.